

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A crystalline choline ascorbate.
2. (original) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1 in the form of crystals free from water of crystallization.
3. (currently amended) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diffraction lines at $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$ and 4.55 \AA are most intense in the range between 3.40 and 4.70 \AA in the 2θ X-ray powder diffractogram.
4. (original) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$ and $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$ is at least 0.5 .
5. (original) A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$ and $d = 4.67 \text{ \AA}$ is at least 0.4 .
6. (currently amended) A process for preparing crystalline choline ascorbate by reacting ascorbic acid with trimethylamine and ethylene oxide, which comprises carrying out the reaction in the temperature range from -105°C to 405°C .
7. (original) A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the reaction is carried out in a water-miscible organic solvent.
8. (original) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein choline ascorbate is crystallized in the solvent used for the reaction.
9. (original) A choline ascorbate obtainable by a process defined according to claim 6.
10. (currently amended) Drugs ~~The use of~~ comprising the choline ascorbate claimed in ~~defined according to claim 1 for producing drugs.~~
11. (currently amended) Additives in foods, additives in animal feeds or food supplements

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comprising ~~The use of~~ the choline ascorbate claimed ~~defined according to~~ in claim 1 as
additive in foods, animal feeds, or as a component in food supplements.

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